



CONSERVATION CONNECTIONS



Newsletter of the St. Louis Region Shooting Range & Outdoor Education Centers

*The August A. Busch Memorial Conservation Area Shooting Range and Outdoor Education Center
&*

The Jay Henges Shooting Range and Outdoor Education Center

Volume 1, Issue 8

August/September 2005

Dutch Oven Cooking, Everyone Can Do It!

by: Dennis Cooke, Outdoor Skills Specialist

Back in the days when most every meal was fixed over an open hearth or camp fire, one tool that was indispensable for quality cooking was the Dutch oven. Lewis and Clark listed it as their most essential piece of equipment during their great Northwestern trek in the early 1800's. The name probably comes from the fact that the cast-iron cookware used by early American settlers was often sold door-to-door by Dutch peddlers. The most important fact about the Dutch oven though, is that it makes cooking fun and easy.



Campers, hunters, river-runners and outdoor-loving families all over the county are re-discovering the simple pleasures of cooking outdoors in a Dutch oven. A Dutch oven treated properly, it should be with you for many years to come and many folks still use the same ovens that their ancestors brought with them by train or covered wagon as they discovered the American Frontier.

There's no limit to the dishes you can prepare in a Dutch oven like roast, steaks, poultry, vegetables, stews, soups, casseroles and my favorite deserts. The Dutch oven can be taken with you wherever you go and all you will need are a few coals (less than an ordinary grill) and the ingredients for the dish you wish to prepare.

Charley Cornbread

- 10" Dutch oven
- 20 charcoal briquettes
- 1 cup yellow cornmeal
- 1 cup flour
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup cooking oil
- 1(8 ounce) can creamed corn
- 2 eggs
- 1 cup sour cream

Mix all ingredients together in a bowl. Pour into a well-greased 10" Dutch oven. Bake with 6 coals under and 14 on top for about 20 minutes. Serve with honey butter. Serves about 6.

(Facts for the this Article taken for the Field Guide, Camp Dutch Oven Basics, Lodge Cast Iron)

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***Busch & Henges Range Facilities Celebrate
NATIONAL HUNTING & FISHING DAY
SEPTEMBER 24, 2005 - 10 am to 4 pm***

WE INVITE YOUR FAMILY FOR A "FREE" DAY OF FUN TO RECOGNIZE THE TREMENDOUS CONTRIBUTION THAT HUNTERS & ANGLERS HAVE MADE TO CONSERVATION.

Activities will include: Basic shotgun, Basic Rifle & Handgun, BB Gun, Casting, & Archery. Conservation organizations will be on hand to share their organizations information with you and show their local and national support of conservation efforts. All Range Fees will be waived. **COME JOIN US!**

The Archery Advantage

by: Conrad Mallady, Outdoor Skills Specialist

It was early October and time to do a little bowhunting. I had done my homework and already had my tree stand in place. With the deer sign heavy and the wind calm, the possibilities were endless! Would I get to see several deer on this particular evening? Would that monster buck pass by my tree within bow range? Would I get the opportunity to bag one of the many turkeys using the area? I didn't know, but that's what hooked me on bowhunting---close encounters with wildlife and the unknown!

There was about an hour and a half of shooting light left and that "magical" time had come. The woods started to come alive with the movement of squirrels and various kinds of birds. Wondering thoughts of work and personal obligations quickly left me. Solving the world's problems would have to wait as my attention became focused on my surroundings. What would I see? Were the deer on the move, closing the distance to my stand? The anticipation made me tingle as it always did this time of the evening. I was focused and time seemed to stand still. There was no urgency to be somewhere or call someone, just the simplicity of the woods around me and the anticipation of what would happen next.

Movement caught my eye about 20 yards away to my left. I slowly



turned to see a bobcat moving through the leaves without making a sound. The cat was unaware of my presence as he stalked toward a couple of logs that had fallen across each other. Once on the log, where the two trees had crossed, the bobcat sat down and watched

the "bumper crop" of squirrels that played in the canopy above. An unsuspecting chipmunk came out of a hole at the end of the log and started to scurry in the direction of the bobcat-- now crouched and ready. The chipmunk was practically under his nose when the bobcat sprang into action, but somehow allowed the tiny creature to retreat back into his hole.



As the bobcat twitched his tail in disgust some more movement about 50 yards away diverted my attention. A small eight point buck came into view and was heading in my direction. I slowly positioned myself for a shot as the buck stopped 25 yards away. I released the arrow and watched it sail a good six inches under the deer's belly. The buck jumped out of bow range and then looked back trying to detect the source of the commotion. I looked over my left shoulder just in time to see the wide eyed bobcat slowly moving away. I took a deep breath and relaxed as I rewound the events in my mind. What an exciting and successful hunt! How many sportsmen get to see a bobcat and a buck at the same time? Although my tag was unfilled, the memory was mine forever.

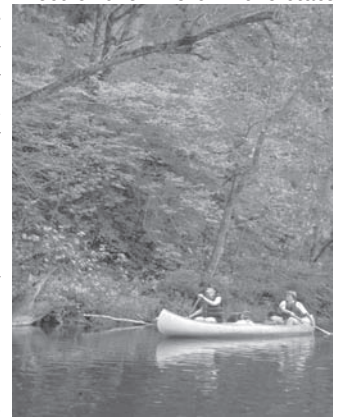
The archery advantage! Bowhunters have the opportunity to hunt from September 15th to January 15th (with the exception of the 11 day rifle deer season) and practically have the woods to themselves. Archery season provides hunters with more opportunity to see wildlife up close and undisturbed in their natural habitat. The season starts early, ends late, animals aren't pressured and the competition with other hunters is minimal. Oh, I forgot to mention----- the memories last a lifetime.

Teaching children about the natural world should be treated as one of the most important events in their lives.--Thomas Berry

Floating Around St. Louis

by: Scott Sarantakis, Outdoor Skills Specialist

Missouri is blessed with many rivers and streams that are perfect for canoeing. Within a 3 hour drive of the St. Louis Metropolitan Area, there are over 20 floatable rivers that offer mile after mile of great fishing and nature watching. Most of the rivers in the state are classified as I or II on the river difficulty scale, under normal flow conditions. Class I is generally very easy with small waves, riffles and no obstructions. Class II is easy with some rapids, but clear channels are easy to find. You do not need to be an expert to float in Missouri but, it is recommended that you have some knowledge of how to handle a canoe before attempting a float trip.



Planning is very important before taking a float trip. The following are some questions you will want to answer before planning a trip. Who is going on the float? Do you plan on fishing or just enjoying being out in nature? What river would you like to explore? How many miles should you cover? The following publications can assist you in answering these questions. "A Paddlers Guide to Missouri" which, can be purchased for \$6.00 offers a mile by mile description of most Missouri rivers and streams. There is also a free publication called "Missouri Guides and Outfitters" 2005 edition that list a variety of outfitters located on most of the floatable rivers in Missouri. Both of these are available at Missouri Department of Conservation Nature Centers and Regional Offices around the state. The 2 of these put together will help you to plan an outstanding trip on a local river or stream.

When you are going floating, the following items should be brought with you to make the trip safe as well as relaxing. You will want a life jacket that fits and is comfortable for you. If you rent your equipment from an outfitter they will give you one, but it may not fit properly or be very comfortable. When you are out on the river all day it is important to stay hydrated, so make sure you have plenty of water and food. Sunscreen is a must even on cloudy days and a basic first aid kit is essential. Binoculars, mask and snorkel, fishing pole, as well as plant and animal identification books are recommended to help you enjoy the different species of plants and animals found in and around our rivers and streams.



If you would like to learn more about canoeing the Missouri Department of Conservation offers basic canoeing classes free of charge. The next one will be held on August 11 from 5:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. at Powder Valley Nature Center. For Reservations call (314)301-1500.

We reached the old wolf in time to watch a fierce green fire dying in her eyes. I realized then, and have know ever since, that there was something new to me in those eyes-- something known only to her and to the mountain. I was young then, and full of trigger-itch; I thought that because fewer wolves meant more deer, that no wolves would mean hunters' paradise. But after seeing the green fire die, I sensed that neither the wolf nor the mountain agreed with such a view --Aldo Leopold

August A. Busch Memorial Outdoor Education Center

To Register for Programs/Classes Call (636) 441-4554

ALL PROGRAMS ARE FREE OF CHARGE TO THE PUBLIC UNLESS NOTED

AUGUST PROGRAMS

Archery Equipment Pre-Season Inspection and Maintenance

Tuesday, 2nd – 6:30 pm

Join MDC as we welcome “The Bow Doctor” Mike Roos of Mike’s Bait, Tackle & Archery. Mike will take you through all the in’s and out’s of inspecting and taking care of your archery equipment. Bring you Bow or Crossbow other equipment to follow along with Mike to ensure your bow is ready for target shooting or the up coming Deer season.

Basics of Modern Arrow Building

Wednesday, 3rd - 6 pm

Interested in archery, making and repairing your own arrows or just what goes into it? Busch staff will conduct a program to provide information to get you started like shaft selection, fletching, glues, inserts, nocks, etc. and the how-to in putting it all together.

Beginning Trap Shooting

Thursday, 4th - Saturday, 6th

6pm Thursday in classroom & 8am Saturday at range

This program is for individuals with experience shooting and handling shotguns. Course will cover and instruct shooters on the game of trap shooting. Attendees may bring own shotgun, 3 boxes #7 1/2 or #8 shot trap/target loads, eye and ear protection or ALL equipment will be provided by MDC.

Missouri Hunter Education Certification Course

Tuesday, 9th - Thursday, 11th – 5:30 pm each night

Hunter Education Certification Course open to ages 11 and up, youth ages 11 thru 13 must have adult attend with them, ages 15 and younger must bring birth certificate, ages 16 and older must have a valid ID. Must attend all three nights and pass test.

Shotgun Shell Reloading

Wednesday, 10th – 6:30 pm

Join Reloading Expert Craig Bischof of Graf’s Reloading in St. Charles as he discusses the how to’s of reloading your own shotgun shells. Mike will discuss powders, loading charts, reloaders, shells, hulls, wads, primers, and answer questions you may have. This program is attendee driven so come with your questions ready.

Beginning Skeet Shooting

Friday, 12th - Saturday, 13th

6pm Friday in classroom, 8am Saturday at range

This program is for all individuals, with experience shooting and handling shotguns. Course will cover and instruct shooters on the game of skeet shooting. Attendees may bring own shotgun, 3 boxes #8 or #9 shot skeet loads, eye and ear protection or ALL equipment will be provided by MDC.

Campfire Building Basics & Hot Dog Roast

Tuesday, August 16 – 6 pm

This program will cover numerous methods of fire starting for the curious, camper and hiker to the individual interested in survival skills. Open to all ages, hot dogs provided, bring your own marshmallows if wanted.

Handgun Basics

Wednesday, 17th - Thursday, 18th

6pm Wednesday in classroom, 6pm Thursday at range

Busch staff will take you through all the basics for you and your family to handle handguns and enjoy the sport. Then we move to the range to actually fire at our facility. .22 caliber target handguns and larger caliber handguns will be provided along with ammunition for all attendees.

Rifle & Handgun (Metallic) Cartridge Reloading

Wednesday, 17th – 6:30 pm

Join Reloading Expert Craig Bischof of Graf’s Reloading in St. Charles as he discusses the how to’s of reloading your own rifle and handgun cartridges. Mike will discuss powders, loading charts, presses, brass, sizing, seating, primers, bullet types plus much more, and answer questions you may have. This program is attendee driven so come with your questions ready.

Missouri Bowhunter Education Certification Course

Friday, 19th - Saturday, 20th

6pm to 9:30pm Friday, 9am to 4pm Saturday

The Missouri Bowhunter Education Certification Course meets the requirements in states that mandate Bowhunter Education Certification to hunt. Program contents consist of the history of bowhunting, bowhunter ethics & responsibilities, hunt preparation, arrow dynamics, equipment, hunting techniques, shot placement, trailing techniques, bowhunter safety, tree stand set-up and safety, plus more. Open to ages 11 and up, youth ages 11 thru 13 must have adult attend with them.

Intermediate Trap Shooting

Saturday, August 20 – 8 am

This course is for shotgun shooters experienced in trap shooting or have previously taken the MDC Shotgun Basics and Sport Shooting course. Clinic will focus on game improvement and working on techniques and problem areas of individuals. This course will not cover basic shotgun or beginning trap techniques.

Game Care Before and After Taxidermy

Tuesday, 23rd – 6 pm

Come listen to taxidermist Dave Hewitt of Wolf Creek Powder Horns, as he provides you the information and takes questions on how to give the taxidermist the best chance to provide you with an outstanding mount. Also how to care for that mount and make that mount last in the best possible condition after receiving it back from the taxidermist.

Firearms Care, Cleaning

& Preventative Maintenance Basics

Wednesday, 24th – 6pm

Firearms Care & Cleaning, start time 6pm, open to all, youth under 16 must attend with adult. This program covers safety, basic parts, basic disassembly, cleaning equipment, etc. The Range will provide some firearms and cleaning equipment. Participants may bring their own firearm, cleaning equipment, and owner’s manual to the program (NO AMMUNITION).

Hands-on Tree Stand Safety Program

Thursday, 25th – 6 pm

One out of every three hunters using tree stands will fall sometime during their life. Many of these falls result in serious injury or death. This program can help you beat those odds. We will discuss safety techniques, restraint systems, guidelines, accessories, and more. Participants will be able to take part in actual hands-on learning from hanging a stand, to securing a restraint system, hanging from the system and getting back into a stand, plus more. All equipment will be provided. Attendees may bring their own stands and safety harnesses.

Intermediate Skeet Shooting

Saturday, August 27 – 8 am

This course is for shotgun shooters experienced in skeet shooting or have previously taken the MDC Shotgun Basics and Sport Shooting course. Clinic will focus on game improvement and working on techniques and problem areas of individuals. This course will not cover basic shotgun or beginning skeet techniques. Individuals deemed inexperienced or lacking sufficient knowledge by the staff, will be released from the course.

Bow Tuning and Sighting In

Wednesday, August 31 – 6 pm

Unsure if you are doing everything correct in tuning your bow and arrow to make that perfect shot? Understand the difference in bare arrow tuning and paper tuning? Wanting to better adjust your sights? Join us as we go through all these methods and work to adjust your bow to be ready for that shot of a lifetime.

Here is the vast, savage, howling mother of ours, Nature, lying all around with such beauty, and such affection for her children, as the leopard, and yet we are so early weaned from her breast to society, to that culture which is exclusively an interaction of man on man. - Henry David Thoreau

August A. Busch Memorial Outdoor Education Center

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ALL PROGRAMS ARE FREE OF CHARGE TO THE PUBLIC UNLESS NOTED

SEPTEMBER PROGRAMS

Duck Calling Seminar with the Pro

Thursday, 1st – 6pm

Duck calling seminar with Calling Champion Kurt Daniels of “Show Me Calls”. Attendees only will have the opportunity to come back for calling lessons from Kurt every Wednesday for four weeks from 7pm to 8am.

Youth Dove Hunting Clinic and Hunt

Friday, 2nd - Saturday, 3rd

Clinic Friday at 6pm

Open to youth 11 to 15 years of age, who are Hunter Education Certified by the date of the hunt. This program is limited to 20 youth hunters, youth must be accompanied by parent or guardian who is Hunter Education Qualified also (parent or guardian will not be able to hunt in youth field). MDC will provide a limited number of firearms, ammunition and guides for those who require them (guides are for those youth without Hunter Education Qualified parent).

Hands-on Tree Stand Safety Program

Saturday, 3rd – 1 pm

We will discuss safety techniques, restraint systems, guidelines, accessories, and more. Participants will be able to take part in actual hands-on learning from hanging a stand, to securing a restraint system, hanging from the system and getting back into a stand, plus more. All equipment will be provided. Attendees may bring their own stands and safety harnesses.

Whitetail Deer Field to Freezer

Saturday, 3rd -4 pm

Has the worry on how to field dress a deer kept you from going to the woods? Tired of taking your deer to the processor and want to know how to do it yourself? Field dressing and processing your deer is surprisingly easy and a rewarding effort. Join MDC staffers and Master Butcher Denny Eisenbath of Josephville Meat Processing as they take you through the processes step by step so you understand what it takes and what you end up with.

Missouri Hunter Education Certification Course

Tuesday, 6th - Thursday, 8th – 5:30 pm each night

Hunter Education Certification Course open to ages 11 and up, youth ages 11 thru 13 must have adult attend with them, ages 15 and younger must bring birth certificate, ages 16 and older must have a valid ID. Must attend all three nights and pass test.

Missouri Bowhunter Education Certification Course

Friday, 9th - Saturday, 10th

6pm to 9:30pm Friday, 9am to 4pm Saturday

The Missouri Bowhunter Education Certification Course meets the requirements in states that mandate Bowhunter Education Certification to hunt. Program contents consist of the history of bowhunting, bowhunter ethics & responsibilities, hunt preparation, arrow dynamics, equipment, hunting techniques, shot placement, trailing techniques, bowhunter safety, tree stand set-up and safety, plus more. Open to ages 11 and up, youth ages 11 thru 13 must have adult attend with them.

NRA Basic Muzzle Loading Rifle Certification

Friday, 9th - Saturday, 10th

6pm Friday in classroom, 8am Saturday at range

Just got that new muzzleloader and feeling a little intimidated by all the powders, bullets, equipment, etc. or just wanting to know more about muzzle loaders? This program covers safety, handling, types, powders, bullets, equipment, marksmanship fundamentals and more. The Range will provide all firearms and ammunition for those without equipment. Participants should bring their own firearms, ammunition, equipment, and owner's manual to the course.

Knife Sharpening Basics

Saturday, 10th -3pm

Looking for help and techniques to get those pocket, kitchen, hunting and fishing knives sharpened? This seminar will cover the differences in knives, edges, angles, and some of the techniques to sharpen them correctly.

Fall Turkey Hunting Seminar

Tuesday, 13th – 6pm

Looking for a unique hunting challenge--interested in the different tactics and techniques for turkeys in the fall. Join with other experts as they discuss this year's populations, techniques, tactics, calls, regulations, and much more.

Missouri Hunter Education Volunteer Instructor Certification Course

Friday, September 16 - Saturday, September 17 2005

6pm to 9:30pm Friday, 9am to 4pm Saturday

This 12 hour two day course will prepare you to become a certified Missouri Hunter Education Instructor. Participants must be 18 years of age or older, be hunter education certified, and will require a background check.

WOMEN IN THE OUTDOORS

Saturday, 17th – 8:30 am to 4 pm

Once again women will have a chance to take a break from their typical Saturday this September 18th for the fall event, which looks to be larger and offer more workshops than ever. Ladies will have choices between several workshops. A breakdown of workshops to be offered and more information will be coming later so check back frequently. This event is open to all women ages 14 and up, cost is \$45. Lunch and equipment are provided. For more information or registration contact Carol Schulte at (636) 978-6429 or email to CSchu88@aol.com

NRA Basic Pistol Certification Course

Tuesday, 20th - Thursday, 22nd – 6 pm each night

The 10-hour course is conducted in three classes. A Tuesday evening classroom session and a Wednesday & Thursday shooting session at the range and 2 hour final session at the classroom. This course is conducted as a public service and is extremely limited in class size. Attendees must be 21 years of age or older. This course does not meet the requirements for Missouri's CCW Law.

NRA Basic Shotgun Certification Course

Tuesday, 27th - Thursday, 29th – 6 pm each night

The 10-hour course is conducted in three evening classes. A Tuesday evening classroom session and a Wednesday & Thursday evening shooting session at the range and 2 hour final session at the classroom

First Aid for the Outdoors Person

Wednesday, 28th or Thursday, 29th - 6 pm either night

Whether your outdoors nature watching, hiking, backpacking, camping, biking, canoeing, fishing or hunting, how would you take care of yourself if injured and alone? Would you be able to take care of someone else? This course will cover basic first aid for yourself and others in the outdoors. Presented by Nurses and Red Cross Professionals, this one is not to be missed. Great program of scouts.

Youth Upland Game Bird Clinic and Hunt

Friday, 30th - Monday, 10th

Clinic is 6pm on the 30th, hunt times TBD at clinic

MDC, Eastern Missouri Chapter of Pheasants Forever and Wil-Nor Hunt Club will be hosting a FREE Upland Game Bird (quail, pheasants, grouse, chukkers, partridge, etc.) Clinic and Hunt for youth. Clinic will cover firearm and hunting safety, hunting with dogs, habitat, game care and cleaning and much more. Youth will then have opportunity to go on one of two hunts and take one bird. Youth will also have an opportunity to shoot clay targets. MDC will provide firearms and ammunition for those who need them. Pheasants Forever will provide food, drinks, orange hunting caps, memberships to their youth organization and magazine Ringneck. For hunt attendees should dress appropriately for the weather and walking in the field (i.e. boots, long pants, appropriate shirt and jacket, etc.). Hunting/shell vests not required, however hunters should wear a hunter orange vest or jacket. Open to ages 11 to 15 years, who are Hunter Education Certified. Youth must attend with an adult sponsor who will be mentoring the youth in the future.

Jay Henges Outdoor Education Center

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AUGUST PROGRAMS

Wing Shooting Series

Wednesdays, 3rd, 10th, 17th, & 24th – 6 pm each night

Bird Hunters of ALL kinds; would you like to improve your shots fired to harvest ratio this Fall? If so, this program is for you. Topics will include: firearm safety, firearm selection, choke systems, ammunition steel/lead, patterning, distance evaluation, & wing shooting fundamentals. You will be taught proven techniques to improve your wing shooting game!

National Rifle Association Handgun Instructor Course

Mondays, 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, & 29th, - 6 pm each night

In order to apply for an instructor certification, a candidate must: have a solid background in firearm safety, previous firearms training & shooting skills. This course will develop your knowledge, skill, an attitude to conduct a NRA Basic Handgun Course. Must be 21 or older.

Scopes & Optics

Thursday, 4th - 6 pm

In this course you will learn about scopes, what they can do and what they can not do. Procedures for mounting a scope on a firearm will be reviewed. Maintenance and care will also be covered.

How to Zero Your Rifle

Friday, 5th @ 6 pm & Saturday, 6th @ 9 am

Proper procedures to align your optic or open sights for accuracy. Windage and elevation will be evaluated at multiple distances. Program will include classroom lecture and live fire practical on the rifle range.

Shooting Fundamentals for the Physically Disabled

Friday, 12th @ 7 pm & Saturday 13th @ 9 am

Learn the basic of shooting a shotgun. Students will learn firearms safety, shotgun nomenclature ammunition, shooting fundamentals, and will include a live fire exercise on the trap range.

Family Archery Program

Wednesday, 17th – 6 pm

This course will provide families with the necessary knowledge, skill, and

Dove Hunting, Wing Shooting Opportunities in the St. Louis Region

by: Kurt Otterstein, Outdoor Skills Specialist

Looking for a place to dove hunt? Or, maybe your child wants to go and you are looking for tips. Well, MDC can help!

The St. Louis Region, which encompasses Lincoln, Warren, St.



Charles, St. Louis, Jefferson, Franklin, Washington and Crawford counties offer some very good opportunities to hunt and harvest dove. There are four Conservation areas that I would recommend looking into. Busch Wildlife and Weldon Spring, in St. Charles County, Columbia

Bottom in St. Louis County and White Conservation Area in Lincoln County.

Busch Wildlife and Weldon Springs are open to the general public and no daily draw or reservations are required. Please stop by the Office at Busch Wildlife for you daily hunt card and hunting restrictions and daily limits if they differ from state regulations. Busch Wildlife phone number is 636-441-4554.

Columbia Bottom, for the first ten days of the season, September 1 – September 10 is by reservation only



abilities to shoot a bow & arrow. The archery shooting sport will provide your family with many hours of outdoor enjoyment. Come join us for some fun in the great outdoors!

Missouri Bow Hunter Education Course

Friday, 19th @ 6 pm & Saturday, 20th @ 9 am

The Missouri Bowhunter Education Certification Course meets the requirements in states that mandate Bowhunter Education Certification to hunt. Program contents consist of the history of bowhunting, bowhunter ethics & responsibilities, hunt preparation, arrow dynamics, equipment, hunting techniques, shot placement, trailing techniques, bowhunter safety, tree stand set-up and safety, plus more. Open to ages 11 and up, youth ages 11 thru 13 must have adult attend with them.

Youth Squirrel Hunting Clinic

Friday, 26th clinic @ 6 pm

Saturday, 27th & Sunday 28th hunts – 6 am to 9 am

This course will include squirrel hunting techniques, firearms safety, shooting fundamentals, 2 morning hunts on the Forest 44 Conservation Area. This is a three day program. This is a great way to introduce youths to sport hunting!

Missouri Hunter Education Student Course

Saturday, 27th & Sunday, 28th 9 am to 4pm each day

The Missouri Hunter Education Student Course is a mandatory requirement for anyone born on or after January 1, 1967 to purchase a firearm hunting permit. Students must be at least 11 years old to be certified. Proof of age (birth certificate) will be necessary for those students 11 to 13 years old. Students must pass a written exam to become certified.

Let's Pattern Your Shotgun for Steel Shot

Wednesday, 31st – 6 pm

Learn how to assess steel shot ammunition and your firearm for specific migratory bird hunting. Ballistic data and firearm manufactures recommendation will be discussed. A live firing exercise will demonstrate how to pattern your shotgun with steel shot and evaluate your target.

and then is open to everyone from the 11th to the 30th. Steel shot is required when hunting on Columbia Bottom. You may apply for that portion of the hunt from July 1 – July 31. Please call 314-877-6014 for more information and special regulation that apply.



White Conservation Area hunts are allowed on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays. On those days daily draws will be conducted. Please call 573-898-5905 for more information.

For those of you that have sons or daughters between the ages of 11 – 15 and have successfully passed the hunter education course, MDC has three youth clinics for them.

Busch Wildlife is conducting their clinic on Friday night, September 2 at the Busch Office and hunting on Saturday. Columbia Bottom and White Conservation Area will perform their clinics on Saturday, September 3 in the morning and hunt in the afternoon.

At all of the clinics the youths will learn safety, game identification, proper clothing, shooting techniques, game laws, dove habitat and dove cleaning. The clinics are by reservation only. Please call Busch Wildlife at 636-441-4554 for more



Jay Henges Outdoor Education Center

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SEPTEMBER PROGRAMS

Predator Calling with Electronics

Thursday 1 – 7 pm

Learn the basics of predator calling with the use of electronic game callers. Learn the advantages and disadvantages of electronic calls. We will discuss other equipment necessary to call in predators successfully.

Youth Dove Clinic

Friday, 2nd @ 6 pm & Saturday, 3rd @ 6 am

This will be a 2 day program with a lecture on dove hunting technique, firearms safety, firearms nomenclature, and wing shooting fundamentals on Friday evening and a Saturday morning dove hunt on the August A. Busch Memorial Conservation Area. Must be Hunter Education Student Certified. Must attend both days with a parent and or adult guardian.

Family Camping & Outdoor Cooking

Friday, 9th @ 6 pm thru Saturday, 10th @ 9 am

This will be a 2 day program with an overnight campout on the Forest 44 Conservation Area. Basic camping gear necessities, camp location and set-up strategies and outdoor cooking will be a hands-on experience on Friday evening. Your family will spend the night under the stars and wake to prepare your own camp breakfast.

National Wild Turkey Federation J.A.K.E.S. Event

Sunday, 11th – 9 am

This program is in partnership with the National Wild Turkey Federation Big River Gobblers Chapter. The event will include basic shotgun shooting, archery shooting, .22 caliber rifle & BB gun marksmanship, outdoor survival, and bow fishing demonstration. Each youth under the age of 17 will receive a free 1 year membership in NWTJ J.A.K.E.S. program. Lunch will be provided.

Trophy Game Care

Wednesday, 14th – 6 pm

Learn how to care for your trophy game harvest from the field to the taxidermist. This care is critical to the success of the taxidermist craft. This program will be presented by representatives from the renowned Schwarz Studio.

Range Rule to Remember....

By Tony Legg, Busch Outdoor Education Supervisor

“Household pets are not permitted on the range. Gun dogs brought to the trap and skeet ranges for training, must be kept on lead and at least 25 feet from the firing positions.”

Bringing a household pet to the range, while seeming to be a good way to get them out of the house, may actually be unsafe or harmful to the animal. Introducing pets to firearms improperly can traumatize the animal and cause them to run, pull away and break free from their owner and possibly run out into the firing areas or vehicle traffic, endangering it and others trying to avoid them or help. Pets can become fearful of thunder, fireworks and other loud noises and hide even in the home after improper exposure. Pets that become agitated or scared may bite the owner or others out of panic.

Even gun dogs must be taken care to not introduce gun fire too suddenly or too closely. Just like our ears, a dog's ears can be damaged by close proximity to the noise. Gun dogs should be started far away from the gunfire noise and slowly over time maybe days brought closer. Gun dogs have no need to be around a rifle range, the sound produced from rifles and handguns are far different than that of shotguns and can easily damage their hearing or create fear.

This rule, as all of our rules, is for everyone's safety and enjoyment. They are not intended to be a burden on users. **THANK YOU for helping to keep the ranges safe and fun for all.**

Tree Stand Safety

Thursday, 15th – 6 pm

Tree stand accidents can be prevented! Come join us and learn HOW-TO use a tree stand safely. Safety equipment and tree stand placement & securing will be demonstrated.

Youth Waterfowl Clinic

Saturday, 17th – 9 am

This program is sponsored by Ducks Unlimited, and the Missouri Conservation Department. Program topics include: firearms safety, water safety, waterfowl regulations, waterfowl needs & preferences, waterfowl ID, calling demonstration, hunting set-ups & strategies, shotgun shooting fundamentals, and shotgun patterning exercise. Hunts will be available during the 2005-2006 waterfowl seasons. Youth must be student hunter education certified.

Deer Processing “Field to Freezer”

Wednesday, 21st -6 pm

Learn the necessary steps that you must take to preserve your deer meat from the field to the freezer. We will show you how to field dress and butcher the different portions of the deer. This class will provide tips, which will enhance the quality of your future venison dinners.

Arrow Fletching

Wednesday, 28th – 6 pm

Learn how-to fletch your own arrows. Step by step procedures will teach the techniques necessary for arrow fletching.

How-to Zero Your Rifle

Friday, 30th @ 6 pm & Saturday, October 1st @ 9 am

Proper procedures to align your optic or open sights for accuracy. Windage and elevation will be evaluated at multiple distances. Program will include classroom lecture and live fire practical on the rifle range.

Henges will be offering free bore sighting assistance September thru November

Did you pick up this Conservation Connections Newsletter at a business or range?

Would you like to have it delivered to your house free or know someone else who would enjoy receiving it?

Just give us a call with the mailing address of your friends, family, and/or yourself and we will mail it right to your home or business.

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Subscription call
(636) 441-4554**

“Some startling facts: By the 1990s the radius around the home where children were allowed to roam on their own had shrunk to a ninth of what it had been in 1970. Today, average eight-year-olds are better able to identify cartoon characters than native species, such as beetles and oak trees, in their own community.” “Yet sending kids outside to play is increasingly difficult. Computers, television, and video games compete for their time, of course, but it's our fears of traffic, strangers, even virus carrying mosquitoes--fears the media exploit-- that keep children indoors. Meanwhile, schools assign more and more homework, and there is less and less access to natural areas”--author Richard Louv, *Last child in the Woods*



St. Louis Region Hunter Education Certification Courses

ALL COURSES ARE FREE OF CHARGE TO THE PUBLIC UNLESS NOTED

(additional courses listed on range program pages)

The Missouri Hunter Education Certification Course is a mandatory requirement for anyone born on or after January 1, 1967 to purchase a firearm hunting permit or deer and turkey transportation tags. Many of our free youth managed hunts and clinics require both youth and adult to be certified.

Open to ages 11 and up, youth ages 11 thru 13 must have an adult attend with them, ages 15 and younger must bring birth certificate, ages 16 and older must have a valid ID. Students must attend all sessions and pass an exam to become certified.

Topics included: hunter ethics and responsibility, firearms and ammunition, firearms safety, hunter preparation, first aid and survival, hunter skills, primitive hunting equipment, and wildlife conservation, management and identification.

Seating is limited, so reserve your place early and check on any special requirements, bringing of lunches, or fees needed for that location. All regional classes scheduled can be seen on the regional web site at: www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/stlouis

Jefferson County

Location: Arnold Rifle & Pistol Club

Date: August 15th thru 24th

Time: 6:30pm to 9:30pm each Monday & Wednesday

Registration#: (636) 424-6212

Location: High Ridge Civic Center

Date: August 20th & 21st

Time: 9am to 4pm each day

Registration#: (636) 797-5334

Remarks: \$5 fee by facility

Location: Jefferson College

Date: August 23th, 25th & 27th

Time: Tues & Thu 6:30pm to 9:30pm, Saturday 8am to 3pm

Registration#: (636) 797-3000 ext 144

Remarks: \$5 fee by facility

Lincoln County

Location: University of Missouri Extension, Troy

Date: August 12th & 13th

Time: 9am to 4pm each day

Registration#: (636) 665-5374

St. Charles County

Location: Wentzville Parks, Green Lantern

Date: August 6th & 7th

Time: 9am to 4pm each day

Registration#: (636) 327-7665 or 332-4236

Remarks: \$5 fee by facility

Location: St. Charles Community College

Date: August 6th & 7th

Time: 9am to 4pm each day

Registration#: (636) 922-8233

Remarks: \$5 fee by facility

Location: St. Peters City Hall

Date: August 20th & 21st

Time: 9am to 4pm each day

Registration#: (636) 477-6600 ext 400

Remarks: \$5 fee by facility



St. Louis County

Location: Columbia Bottom CA

Date: August 6th & 7th

Time: 9am to 4pm each day

Registration#: (314) 877-6014

Location: Powder Valley Nature Center

Date: August 6th & 7th

Time: 9am to 4pm each day

Registration#: (314) 301-1500

Location: Eureka Community Center

Date: Tuesdays, August 9th & 30th

Time: 6pm to 9pm each day

Registration#: (636) 938-6775

Remarks: \$5 fee by facility

Location: Forest Park Community College

Date: August 13th & 14th

Time: 9am to 4pm each day

Registration#: (314) 664-9175

Remarks: \$5 fee by facility

Location: Meramec Community College

Date: August 20th & 21st

Time: 9am to 4pm each day

Registration#: (314) 984-777

Remarks: \$5 fee by facility

Location: Affton Community Center

Date: August 20th & 21st

Time: 9am to 4pm each day

Registration#: (314) 615-4386

Remarks: \$5 fee by facility

Hunter Education Instructor Certification Courses

Location: Columbia Bottom CA

Date: August 26th & 27th

Time: Friday evening 6pm - 9pm and Saturday 9am - 4pm

Registration#: Dennis Cooke (314) 877-1309

Location: August A. Busch Memorial CA

Date: September 16th & 17th

Time: Friday evening 6pm - 9pm and Saturday 9am - 4pm

Registration#: Kurt Otterstein (636) 441-4554

"I'm learning on thing the hard way, and that is that you have to re-educate the public mind about every fifteen or twenty years or it forgets everthing learned a while back."--Jay Norwood Darling



Conservation Connections

Missouri Department of Conservation
2360 Hwy D
St. Charles, MO 63304-2215
www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/stlouis

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Look On The Web And Register For Our Up Coming Outdoor Programs Here Are Just A Few!

www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/stlouis

www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/ranges/busch or www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/ranges/henges

October

At Busch

1st Orienteering
9th Smooth Bore/Black Powder Shotgun Shoot
20th & 22nd NRA Muzzleloading Rifle Course
27th Wild Game Cooking Class

At Henges

5th & 8th Women's Basic Handgun
14th & 15th Retriever Dog Training
28th & 29th Youth Bow Hunting Clinic

November

At Henges

4th & 5th youth Upland Bird Hunting Clinic
16th Turkey Deep Fried
30th & Dec 3rd BSA Shotgun Merit Badge

At Busch

2nd Deep Frying Turkeys
4th & 5th .22 caliber Rifle Basics
16th Knife Sharpening
17th & 19th NRA Muzzleloading Rifle Course

Outdoor Education Center Volunteers Wanted

Do you like working with people of all ages? We are continually looking for individuals who enjoy sharing their time, love for the outdoors and dedication to conservation. If you are interested contact us at:

Busch (636) 300-1953 ext 251

Henges (636) 938-9548

**No MORE
Trash!**